CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A governor device for use in an elevator system, comprising:

a rotating member that rotates responsive to movement of an elevator car;

a selectively powered switch near the rotating member; and

a moving member that is biased into a position to not activate the switch, the moving member moving into a position to active the switch responsive to the rotating member rotating at a speed beyond a selected limit.

2. The device of claim 1, wherein the switch includes a power module that is selectively powered to allow the switch to be activated responsive to contact between the moving member and the switch.

3. The device of claim 2, wherein the power module comprises a rearming coil.

4. The device of claim 1, including a brake that acts upon a component associated with the elevator car to limit movement of the car responsive to the switch being activated by the moving member.

5. The device of claim 1, including a biasing member that urges the moving member radially inward relative to the rotating member.

6. The device of claim 5, wherein the biasing member comprises a spring.

7. The device of claim 5, including a lever having one end pivotally supported on the rotating member and a second end associated with the moving member and wherein the biasing member urges the lever away from an outer edge of the rotating member.

8. The device of claim 5, wherein the moving member comprises a plurality of arms linked together to move outward simultaneously.

9. The device of claim 1, wherein the rotating member is a governor sheave.

10. The device of claim 1, wherein the rotating member is a tension pulley.

11. The device of claim 1, including a control that selectively powers the switch.

12. The device of claim 11, wherein the control generates a wireless communication signal that indicates a desired operation condition of the switch.

13. The device of claim 12, wherein the control comprises a hand-held signaling device.

14. The device of claim 11, wherein the control automatically powers the switch when the elevator system is in a inspection mode.

15. The device of claim 1, including a primary governor that prevents movement of the car when the car speed exceeds a first limit and wherein the moving member moves into a position to activate the switch when the car speed exceeds a second, lower limit.

16. A governor assembly, comprising:

a primary governor device that prevents movement of an elevator car beyond a first selected speed limit; and

an auxiliary governor device that is selectively powered to prevent movement of the elevator car at a second, lower selected limit.

17. The assembly of claim 16, wherein the auxiliary governor device includes a selectively powered switch and a moving member that moves into a position to activate the switch when the car speed exceeds the second limit.

18. The device of claim 17, wherein the switch includes a power module that is selectively powered to allow the switch to be activated responsive to contact between the moving member and the switch.

19. The assembly of claim 17, wherein the primary governor device includes a governor sheave that rotates responsive to movement of the car and wherein the moving member moves responsive to rotation of the governor sheave.

20. The assembly of claim 17, wherein the primary governor device includes a tension pulley that rotates responsive to movement of the car and wherein the moving member moves responsive to rotation of the tension pulley.